

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Specific activation of the Raf-1/MEK/p42/44MAPK kinase  
5 cascade in HepG2 cells, independent of other "upstream" factors or  
cell growth regulation, leads to induction of LDL receptor  
transcription. The degree of p42/44MAPK activation determines the  
extent of LDL receptor induction. The present findings underscore  
the important and central role of the MAPK pathway in regulating  
10 low density lipoprotein receptor expression and may be of  
considerable potential significance for the development of new signal  
transduction-based approaches for the treatment of  
hypercholesterolemia.